

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 00110 01 OF 02 041959Z
ACTION EUR-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 ONY-00 /004 W
-----042010Z 070662 /42

P 041639Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2703

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 MOSCOW 00110

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FOR GARRISON FROM MATLOCK

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL - INFORMAL

1. RE STATE 313926, PARA 2: MFA HAS NOT YET SENT US
VISA APPLICATION FOR ARTEN BOROVIK, SON OF THE LIT GAZ
CORRESPONDENT. AS YOU ARE PROBABLY AWARE, MFA IS OFTEN
SLOW IN FORWARDING VISA APPLICATIONS.

2. PLEAJE PASS ON TO MARSHALL BREMENT THE FOLLOWING:

RECEIPTS TO DATE TOTAL \$3,165. THE BAD NEWS IS HIS MAIYC
IS INSISTING UPON FULL OVERTIME PAYMENT FOR ALL OF THE
WEEKENDS AND HOLIDAYS SHE WORKED. THE TOTAL COST IS
\$1,212.88 WHICH INCLUDES SEPARATION PAY, UNUSED LEAVE AND SOCIAL
SECURITY. TOM TRACY AND MISC. SERVICES HAVE BOTH TRIED TO
GET HER TO ACCEPT STRAIGHT TIME FOR THE WEEKENDS AND
HOLIDAYS WITHOUT SUCCESS. SINCE SHE IS ADAMANT WE SEE
ULITTLE RE COURSE, BUT THOUGHT MARSHALL SHOULD KNOW BEFORE
WE PAY HER.

THANKS FOR COPY OF ADVANCE INSPECTION REPORT JIM
HENDERSON BROUGHT OUT. AFTER FIRST, VERY RAPID READING,
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I NOTE ONLY TWO AREAS WHERE I BELIEVE REPORT MAKES
WISE RECOMMENDATIONS. YOU MAY WISH TO DISCUSS WITH
AMBASSADOR CARGO IF THE REPORT IS NOT IN FINAL FORM:

A. RECOMMENDATION 2-1 POST MANAGEMENT SECTION:
WE DO NOT THINK IT IS EITHER PRACTICABLE OR DESIRABLE
TO HIRE AN UNOFFICIAL AMERICAN OR THIRD-COUNTRY NATIONAL

TO MANAGE SPASO. I'M NOT SURE THAT WE COULD FIND AN APPROPRIATE PERSON TO TAKE ON THIS JOB AND IF WE DID IT WOULD REDUCE OUR ABILITY TO MONITOR AND CONTROL THE STAFF AT SPASO, PARTICULARLY IF A THIRD-COUNTRY NATIONAL IS SELECTED. (THE DOUBTS RAISED ELSEWHERE IN THE REPORT ON THIS SCORE ARE IN MY VIEW EXAGGERATED, BUT IF THERE IS THE NEED FOR MORE CONTROL, WE WILL NOT GET IT BY TURNING OVER THE JOB TO A THIRD-COUNTRY NATIONAL*.) FURTHERMORE, THIS STEP WOULD REDUCE OUR HOUSING POOL BY ONE UNIT, WHICH RUNS COUNTER TO OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE REPORT.

B. RECOMMENDATION 18-1, PUBLICATIONS PROCUREMENT:
ABOLISHING THE PPO WOULD BE A SEVERE BLOW TO THE EMBASSY WHICH WOULD INEVITABLY RESULT IN SIGNIFICANTLY POORER SERVICES
TO END-USERS, WOULD ADD TO THE NON-SUBSTANTIVE BURDEN OF POL-INT, AND WOULD STYMIE OUR EFFORTS TO UPGRADE THE POST LANGUAGE PROGRAM. I DON'T BELIEVE THE INSPECTORS REALLY UNDERSTOOD THE COMPLEXITIES OF BOOK PROCUREMENT HERE FOR SCORES OF END-USERS. IT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO HAVE SEVERAL OFFICERS ALWAYS BRIEFED ON THE CURRENT NEEDS AND DESIRES OF WASHINGTON AGENCIES, AND THOUGH ALL CAN HELP AT TIMES IN BUYING (PARTICULARLY FROM CARDS) THIS WILL ALWAYS BE SUPPLEMENTARY TO THE MAIN TASK. ASIDE FROM REDUCING THE EFFICIENCY OF THE PUBLICATIONS PROCUREMENT PROGRAM, WHICH IS OF SUBSTANTIAL PRIORITY FOR MANY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, THIS RECOMMENDATION RUNS COMPLETELY COUNTER TO OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS THAT THE

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INTERNAL POLITICAL SECTION DEVOTE MORE TIME TO ANALYSIS, TRAVEL, SUPERVISING CONTACTS AND INTERNAL ECONOMIC REPORTING. ADDING ANOTHER MAJOR DUTY NOT DIRECTLY RELATED TO THESE OBJECTIVES OBVIOUSLY WILL REDUCE THE CAPACITY OF THE SECTION TO PERFORM ITS PRIORITY TASKS. AS FOR THE POST LIBRARY AND LANGUAGE PROGRAM, THESE CANNOT BE DONE WELL BY ANOTHER OFFICER WITHOUT DETRIMENT TO HIS/HER PRIMARY TASK, AND THE LANGUAGE PROGRAM IN PARTICULAR IS ONE SINGLED OUT BY THE INSPECTORS AS NEEDING IMPROVEMENT.

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2704

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4. IN A MORE GENERAL SENSE, I BELIEVE THAT SOME OF THE IMPLICATIONS IN THE DISCUSSION OF BASIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES (PAGE 6, POST MANAGEMENT SECTION) ARE NOT FULLY IN ACCORD WITH THE FACTS. ALTHOUGH THE PRIORITIES SET ARE OF COURSE NOT ABOVE C VIL, THE FACT IS THAT WE HAVE PLANNED THE USE OF PERSONNEL AND SERVICES. WE SET FORTH OUR DETAILED PLANS IN A TELEGRAM AND AIRGRAM IN JANUARY, 1975, AND HAVE ADHERED CLOSELY TO THIS PLAN, WHICH WAS FULLY CONSISTENT WITH THE LAST INSPECTION REPORT AND WAS APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT. ALTHOUGH ALL HOUSING IS INDEED FULL AT THE MOMENT (SINCE THE SOVIETS DID NOT DELIVER ON SCHEDULE), THE STATEMENT THAT WE "PRE-COMMITTED EVERY AVAILABLE LIVING ACCOMMODATION WITH PERSONNEL" AND SLIGHTED EXPANSION OF OFFICE SPACE IS ALSO NOT FULLY ACCURATE. IN FACT, OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS, SIX OF THE ADDITIONAL APARTMENTS WE ACQUIRED (THE MAJORITY) WERE DEVOTED TO THE EXPANSION OF OFFICE SPACE, NOT TO ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL, WHICH CLEARLY INDICATES THAT MORE ATTENTION WAS GIVEN TO EXPANSION OF OFFICE SPACE THAN TO ENLARGING THE STAFF.

5. THIS IS NOT OF COURSE TO SUGGEST THAT OFFICE SPACE IS CONFIDENTIAL

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ANYWHERE NEAR ADEQUATE, BUT WE HAVE A REASONABLE PROSPECT OF ADDING SEVERAL MORE APARTMENTS OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS, THEREFORE WE ARE NOT FACING A COMPLETELY STATIS SITUATION. AS I POINTED OUT TO THE INSPECTORS, OUR NEXT PRIORITIES FOR THE USE OF ADDITIONAL SPACE WILL BE TO EXPAND SPACE FOR "FIRST FLOOR" ACTIVITIES (BY TAKING OVER APARTMENTS IN THE SOUTH WING), AND ESTABLISHING TWO TRANSIET APARTMENTS. WE ARE, INCIDENTALLY, IN THE MIDST OF ANOTHER COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF FUTURE NEEDS AND WILL

SEND IN A COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS WITHIN A FEW WEEKS. BUT, IN SUM, IT SEEMS TO ME THAT THOUGH WE MAY BE CHARGED WITH POOR OR UNREALISTIC PLANNING, IT IS UNFAIR TO IMPLY THAT WE HAD NONE AT ALL, AND MINDLESSLY ALLOWED AN IRRATIONAL STAFF BUILD-UP.

6. WE HAVE REQUESTED TCP FOR ALEKSEEVVA IN OPEN CHANNEL WITHOUT DESCRIBING THE WHOLE PROGRAM AND WITHOUT PUTTING DEPARTMENT ON FOR INFO. WE HAVE RECEIVED NOTHING IN OPEN CHANNEL WHICH INDICATES ANY SERIOUS PROBLEM WITH THE CASE, ALTHOUGH 76 STATE 313831 STATES THAT "243(G) WAIVER OF SANCTIONS HAS NOT REPEAT NOT BEEN GRANTED AS YET". IF INS COMPLAINS LATER ABOUT OUR SENDING HER TO ROME, WE CAN REPLY THAT WE SENT HER VIA TCP WITHOUT WAITING FOR RECEIPT OF 243(G) BECAUSE HER EXIT PERMISSION HAD ALREADY EXPIRED. WE'RE DOING IT THIS WAY BECAUSE WE ARE VIRTUALLY CERTAIN THAT, IF THE DETAILS BECOME KNOWN TO INS ROME, THEY WILL TURN DOWN OUR TCP REQUEST, POSSIBLY LEAVING HER PERMANENTLY STRANDED. WE'LL REPEAT THE TCP CABLE IN FRONT CHANNEL FOR YOU WITH STADIS CAPTION IF YOU NEED IT FOR THE FILE. WE REALIZE THAT THIS IS NOT GOING TO MAKE US ANY FRIENDS WITH INS, BUT WE BELIEVE THE OTHER ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE WORSE.

7. WE HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED VO'S ANNOUNCEMENT RE AVAILABILITY OF VISA NUMBERS FOR JANUARY, ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NORMALLY RECEIVED THESE A DAY OR TWO BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF THE MONTH. WE HAVE SEVERAL NON-PREFERENCE CASES WHICH WE WOULD LIKE TO MOVE THIS CONFIDENTIAL

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MONTH, IF POSSIBLE (INCLUDING KOSTAKIS) AND WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU COULD LET US KNOW THE JANUARY PRIORITY DATE FOR NON-PREFERENCE IVS IN THIS CHANNEL OR FRONT CHANNEL.

8. IRINA MCCLELLAN CONTACTED US DECEMBER 31 THROUGH CHRIS WREN OF THE NEW YORK TIMES AND DAVE WILLIS OF CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR WHO BROUGHT IN LETTERS FROM HER TO THE AMBASSADOR AND THXIPRESIDENT-ELECT RELATING HISTORY OF HER CASE, INCLUDING DETAILS OF OVIR VISIT AS SUMMARIZED PARA 5 STATE 582. WE AGREE THAT OBIDIN'S STATEMENT CONTRADICTS THE "REFORM" WHICH PURPORTED TO GUARANTEE REFUSED EXIT VISA APPLICANTS A REVIEW OF THEIR CASES EVERY SIX MONTHS AND WE BELIEVE THIS MIGHT BE A GOOD PEG ON WHICH TO RAISE THE CASE AGAIN.

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